Underhill and Hayton: Law Relating to Trusts and Trustees, the authors define a constructive trust as follows.

"A constructive trust is an equitable remedy created by the court to prevent a person from wrongfully benefiting from property that he or she has acquired through a fiduciary relationship or a similar relationship of trust and confidence. The constructive trust is designed to redress a breach of trust, or to prevent unjust enrichment. It is an involuntary trust or a trust imposed by law, as opposed to a voluntary trust created by agreement between the parties."